

## REMARKS

Upon entry of the present amendment, claims 1-17 are pending in this application. Claims 2, 3 and 12-17 have been withdrawn. Claims 1 and 4-11 have been rejected. Claims 1 and 7-9 have been amended. Support for these amendments appears in the specification at, e.g., page 3, lines 3-5 and in claim 10 as originally filed. No new matter is added.

## CLAIM REJECTIONS

### Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1 and 4-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), as being anticipated by Bru-Magniez et al., U.S. Pat. No. 5,192,781 (“Bru-Magniez”). The Examiner has stated that the insertion of a purported mechanism in Applicants’ August 23, 2003 Response does not render the claims patentably distinct. Applicants respectfully traverse.

Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 8 to recite “A method of, in an animal, including a human, inhibiting the formation of, or reversing the preformation of, advanced glycosylation end products thereby treating ...” Support for these amendments can be found throughout the specification and specifically at, e.g., page 3, lines 3-5. As amended, the pending claims relate to substituted oxazole and thiazole derivatives which do not contain an aromatic substituents at the 4 or 5 position ( $R^a$  and  $R^b$ , respectively).

Bru-Magniez teaches the synthesis of thiazole derivatives substituted at the 5 carbon position with aryl groups and generally teaches their angiotensin II antagonistic properties. However, Bru-Magniez does not disclose inhibiting the formation of, or reversing the preformation of, advanced glycosylation end products using the claimed compounds of the present invention, as amended herein, thereby treating the disorders as disclosed and claimed.

As such, Bru-Magniez does not teach or suggest all of the limitations of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicants assert that claims 1 and 8, as amended herein, (and claims 4-7 and 9-11, which depend from claims 1 and 8, respectively) are not anticipated by Bru-Magniez. Therefore, this rejection of these claims should be withdrawn.

### CONCLUSION

On the basis of the foregoing amendment and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance and a Notice of Allowance for the pending claims is respectfully requested. If there are any questions regarding this application that can be handled in a phone conference with Applicants' Attorneys, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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